

SCRIP TALK

Volume 29 - February, 2003 Issue - Number 120

A Word from the Editor

As I write this, it is snowing again in West Virginia. Seems like we've had more snow and cold weather than last year. Am looking forward to Spring and the Scrip Show in Bluefield. Think Spring!

Congratulations to all the members who were elected as officers in the Scrip Club. Many, many thanks to the outgoing officers. Especially to Jim Lackey for all his work in spearheading the new scrip book and working so hard to get it done.



SCRIP TALK
P.O. Box 444
Loyall, KY 40854-0444

Upcoming Events

Spring Scrip Show and meeting
April 25 and 26, 2003 at the
Ramada Inn, Bluefield, WV.
Exit 1 at Bluefield from 52
1-304-325-5421 or
1-888-613-9080.

Mention that you're with the
Scrip Club to get the room
discount.



FORTUNE, HOWARD
12/03 1917 02/99
502 HOLT AVE.
MT STERLING KY 40353

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By: Jim Lackey

This will be my last message as President of the Association. I want to express my appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee and everyone who has worked with me to further the goals of the Association. During the last two years, working as a team, we have brought the Association into a new century and made my term in office a most enjoyable experience. I want to congratulate and welcome Walter "Doc" Fletcher, the new President, and the newly elected members of the Executive Committee to their new positions. I have full confidence that the transition will be smooth and trouble free as we enter the fourth decade of scrip collecting.

I want to emphasize the need for everyone to send in all new finds to Crawford Blakeman, New Finds Editor. It is important to correctly make the foils so that the information can be recorded for future updates of the Edkins Catalogues.

The Editor needs interesting articles written by our members to feature in upcoming issues of *SCRIP TALK*. I have some in the planning stages and will send them in to Jim Singleton soon. Over the year many fine articles have been written by the membership and award plaques have been presented for the best article written each year. The Ancil Donohoe Literary Award has not been presented for a few years, but it needs to be presented in his memory. I hope this award will be resumed this year.

Another award that has not been presented for the last few meetings is the Paul Jensen Display Awards. Many members have fine collections and it would be great to see them display their collections at the meeting again. Award plaques in memory of the late Paul Jensen are presented for the best displays presented.

The upcoming Bluefield, WV, spring meeting is nearing. If you plan to attend and want a table please send in your confirmation form found in this issue of *SCRIP TALK*. I hope to see everyone in Bluefield.

THE NATIONAL SCRIP COLLECTOR'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

REGISTRATION AND CONFIRMATION BLUEFIELD SPRING MEETING

April 25th and 26th

MAIL FORM TO: W. C. Sump, Secretary, P. O. Box 444, Loyall, Kentucky 40854-0444

This form MUST be returned no later than April 10th, 2003.

By signing hereon, I agree, as a member in good standing, to comply with the ethics as set forth in the Constitution and By-laws of the NSCA, Inc., and release the NSCA, Inc., and Directors from all liability.

SIGNATURE _____

Name: _____ **Member Number** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

This NSCA, Inc. event is **FREE** to all members in good standing **ONLY** and for **ONE** guest. A Guest is defined as a spouse or family member. A guest badge will be given to all attending at the beginning of the meeting. See the Secretary to receive your badge. Members should wear their membership badges at all events. If you have lost or misplaced your badge the Secretary will have extras on hand.

Your membership badge will serve as your ticket to the banquet on Friday evening. The meal will be served compliments of the NSCA, Inc.

**DO NOT FAIL TO MAIL THIS FORM BACK IF YOU
PLAN TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.**

REFERENCE BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE NSCA, INC. AND CURRENT PRICES

1. Edkins Catalogue of West Virginia Coal Scrip – NEW!! \$40.00 + \$3.50 postage.
2. Edkins Catalogue, All States Except WV - \$30.00 + \$3.50 postage.
3. Trantow Catalogue of Lumber Scrip - \$40.00 + \$3.50 postage.
4. Schenkman's Catalogue of Exploder Tokens - \$18.00 + \$3.50 postage.
5. Dodrill's "20,000 Coal Company Stores" Soft Bound - \$10.00 + \$3.30 postage.

The above price is to NSCA members. Please send payment to NSCA

**Crawford Blakeman, Treasurer
P. O. Box 536
Middlesboro, KY 40965**

Phone 606-248-3801
Email chbsr@wwgap.net

DEALERS INQUIRE FOR QUANTITY PRICES.

MAIL AND FLOOR BID AUCTIONEER WANTED

NOW!!!

The position of Mail and Floor Bid auctioneer is vacant and a replacement is urgently needed. Anyone interested in this important job should contact President Walter "Doc" Fletcher immediately. We missed having an auction for the upcoming meeting in Bluefield, but we can always make up for it if we can interest someone in taking the job of Auction Coordinator. The salary is gratis, but the job is rewarding.

MEMBERS DROPPED FOR NON RENEWAL

As of this printing 27 members did not renew their membership for 2003. Sadly, they have lost their original membership number and did not receive this issue of **SCRIP TALK**. We have a good number of members take advantages of the five-year membership plan. With this plan a member get a free years membership, won't have to worry about paying your dues every year and save \$15.00 in the process.

Below is a facsimile label that appears on every of issue of **SCRIP TALK** a member receives. Note that on the left, under the name is the date the membership is valid, the member's membership number, and the date the member joined. This serves two purposes. It aids in record keeping and should remind the member of the year their dues are valid for.

DOE, JOHN
12/03 0001 12/72
2003 Main Street
Scripville, U. S. A. 00002

ELECTION 2002 NOW IN THE RECORD BOOKS

By: W. C. Stump, Secretary

The following candidates have been elected to serve for the next two years.

PRESIDENT:

Walter "Doc" Fletcher

SECRETARY

W. C. Stump

TREASURER

Crawford Blakeman, Sr.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

John J. Podgurski

James Singleton, Jr.

Harold "Corkey" Snodgrass

EDITOR

James Singleton, Jr.

On behalf of the Association I would like to extend thanks to Mr. Roy Manis, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and his fellow nominating Committee members Mr. Claude Travis and Donald Young for supervising the election.

FORGOTTEN FACTS REMEMBERED AFTER THIRTY YEARS

THE GENESIS OF THE N. S. C. A., INC.

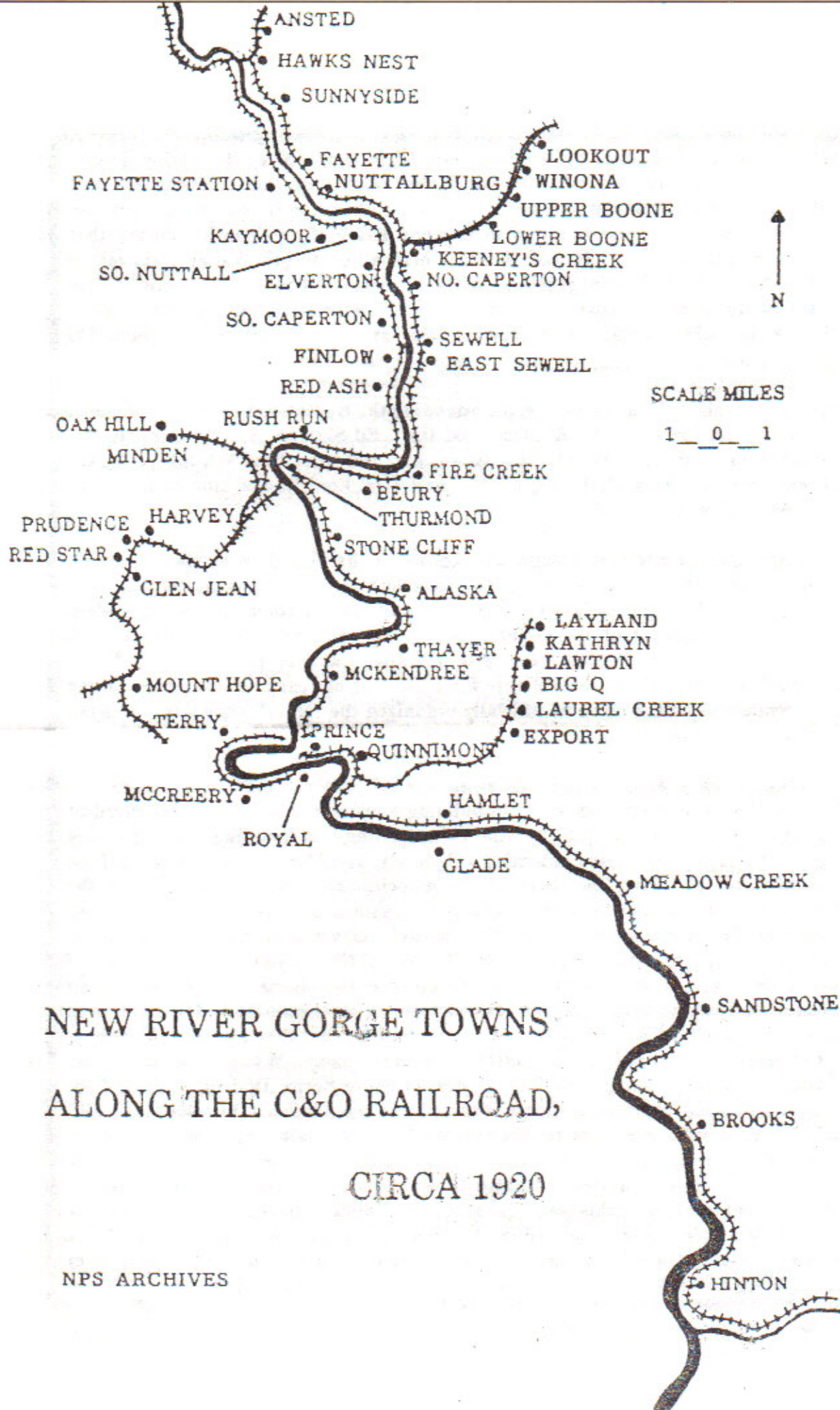
By: W. C. Stump

Thirty years!!!! Looking back in retrospect that is a long time, yet a minuscule blink in a moment in the history of time. Yet, so much can be created sometimes in that minuscule blink. So it was when, in early 1972, the National Scrip Collectors Association was formed. Strangely, I wrote a similar report of that happening on the 20th Anniversary of the organization of the NSCA, Inc. So much has happened during the past ten years as well, and I would like to present an update on my original article for the new members and old alike. I do so "lest we forget".

It was in 1992, that I was reading an article in SCRIP TALK, written by then Secretary Walter Caldwell, when I recalled the very day that set the final stage for the formation of the Association. Back in the early 1970's scrip collectors were not organized as a group. Most collectors met at coin and token shows or got together as small groups to buy, trade and "talk scrip". It was at one of these meetings, held in Harlan County, Kentucky, that I first become aware that organized serious collectors of coal company scrip even existed. The following is the story of the "Genesis" of the NSCA, Inc.

I recall a meeting of a small group of scrip collectors that I met across by sheer accident. The meeting was held on the south side of Pine Mountain, near off U. S. Highway 421-S at a small motel called the Mount Aire Motel. I was working as a Health Department Sanitarian in charge of inspecting the food service establishments in Harlan County. As I walked through the lobby of the motel I noticed an old friend of mine, the late Paul Whitaker who informed me that he was attending a "scrip swap" along with a group of fellow "Scriptors". I was amazed at why anyone would want to waste his or her time collecting "worthless" coal company scrip. After all, the coal mines had long since ceased using it and the only value I knew it had was for making "slugs" to be used in the newly installed parking meters the City of Harlan. Curiosity caused me to take a look at the trading area. I noticed a few familiar faces in the room when I spotted Howard "Woody" Christian and Howard Short, who later became good friends. I didn't recognize the other "Scriptors" at the time, but I asked my late old friend R. R., Tippy to recall that day and he assisted in naming many in attendance at the meeting.

According to "Tip", as all his friends called him, he and Paul Whitaker organized the meeting in the spring of 1972. This meeting was the last of a number of such



meetings that had been held before the group officially organized the National Scrip Collectors Association. He said, "It was Walter (Caldwell) that took the ball and went with it." He continued and said, "The group of us finally convinced Walter to organize the scrip enthusiasts into a formal and national organization during that meeting in Harlan, KY.. It took a bit of persuading to get Walter Caldwell to assume the position as to organizer. After a number of informal meetings held throughout the area, everyone wanted to form a collector's organization, but needed a leader to take charge of organizing the area collectors into a bonafide organization."

Mr. Tippy recalled the following people attending the Harlan scrip swap: Bill Duke, Ancil Donohoe, Pat Noe, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Duff, Ed Sigmon, Sr., Ed Sigmon, Jr., Howard Short, Howard "Woody" Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Whitaker, Walter Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Zegeer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lange, Don Edkins, and Mr. & Mrs. R. R. Tippy.

Mr. Tippy and the late Fred Lange, also known as the legendary "Cole S. Cuttle", organized the first interstate meeting of scrip collectors. Mr. Tippy continued, "The meeting was in Williamson, W. V. in the late 1960's. A number of meetings were held in different areas of the country before the meeting held in Harlan, KY. However, it was at the Harlan meeting that Walter Caldwell picked up the "ball" that had been bouncing uncontrollably for a number of years. Walter became the first President of NSCA when he officially organized the "team" known today as the National Scrip Collectors Association."

It has been thirty years since the scrip swap was held at the old Mt. Aire Motel on Pine Mountain. The original building housing the motel was destroyed in a fire in the 1980's. Many of the "Scriptors" attending that founding meeting are no longer with us or have ceased collecting. Only Mr. and Mrs. Zegeer and Mrs. Paul Whitaker are still active members of the Association. Walter Caldwell left the organization and formed his own private scrip business and publishes a newsletter of his own. However, the memories of those early days and of the departed friends and fellow sriptors have survived and will survive as we enter a fourth decade of scrip collecting. Most important to remember is that these early pioneer scrip collectors left behind a living legacy. It was through their interest and dedication to the formation of NSCA, and their many contributions that they made to the hobby, that we have such a thriving organization as we have today. When one picks up any volume of Edkins Catalogue of Coal Company Store Scrip, Dodrill's 20,000 Coal Company Stores, down to a simple issue of the association's newsletter SCRIP TALK, they should remember the meeting on Pine Mountain. These are reminders of the pioneer collectors who had a dream that did come true. I know that even today, being a life-long native of Harlan County, I am very proud to know that the last unofficial meeting of this small group of "Scriptors" laid the foundation for the National Scrip Collectors Association of which I am proud to be a member. Little did I realize that I would become a "Scriptor" less than a decade or so later after that meeting and collecting that "worthless" coal company store scrip.

~~~~~N.S.C.A. FREE ADS FOR MEMBERS~~~~~

Free Ads are available to N.S.C.A. members at no charge. The only requirements being that they are limited to 4 lines, one ad per issue. You may send up to four different ads in one mailing. Deadline for Free Ads is three weeks after the postmark of the current issue of SCRIP TALK. All ads received after the deadline will be held for the following issue. No ad will rerun automatically, each issue will require a separate request. Paid ads should be sent to SCRIP TALK Editor and NOT the Free Ad Editor. **SEND ALL FREE ADS TO: Steve Ratliff, N.S.C.A. Free Ad Editor, 1717 Saint Marys Bay Drive, Milton, Florida 32583-7343 or E-mail Steve@Ratliff.com (Note: + at the end of your ad indicates you need to renew it.)**

FORMER HARLAND COUNTY RESIDENT AND COLLECTOR OF HARLAN CO. COAL MINE SCRIP wants to buy scrip from Molus where my wife was born. James Warren, 2201 W. Wilshire Road, Muncie, IN 47304 jimlaq@aol.com +

BOOKS, WAGE AGREEMENTS, BITUMINOUS COAL INDUSTRY, OCT. 1933 by National Coal Assoc. \$25.00. Saward's Annual 1965 and 1966 by Ralph B. Saward. These are reviews of the coal trade. \$35.00 each + S&H. Pat Errigo, 848 State Street, Curwensville, PA 16833 (814)236-3403 +

WANTED: MICHIGAN LUMBER AND COAL SCRIP. Paul Cunningham, Box One, Tecumseh, MI 49286 cunninghamchips@hotmail.com, www.cunninghamexonumia.com +

WANTED: FORDSON COAL SCRIP FROM POND CREEK STORES (E1 & E5) in Kentucky. Write, call, or email me at Darrell Rainbolt, 1455 Short St., Corydon, Indiana 47112-2200 (812) 738-2579 darrellrainbolt@peoplepc.com +

DOUBLE DENOMINATION and other major errors wanted. Top prices paid for interesting pieces. David E. Schenkman, P.O. Box 366, Bryantown, MD 20617. E-mail dave@turtlehillbanjo.com +

EXPLOSIVE CONTROL TOKENS WANTED - Will make reasonable offer for single rare piece, small lot, hoards, or entire collection! Buy/Sell/Trade. Joseph Pierczynski, 324 S. Fountain Avenue, Ridgecrest, CA 93555-4402 (760) 375-6776 +

WANTED - ELKS - BOTH BPOE & IBPOEW - tokens, etc. Price and describe in 1st letter. J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

NEW COLLECTOR will trade my WV, KY, TN, AL coal tokens for your good fors or coal tokens from OH, KY, TN, one-for-one, just ship. Gene Miller, 3306 Startan Ct., Louisville, KY 40220

MORE AND MORE SCRIPTORS ARE USING THE CONVENIENCE OF EMAIL TO SEND THEIR FREE AD IN. SEND YOUR FREE AD TO: Steve@Ratliff.com

FLORIDA TOKENS WANTED - Florida tokens of all types wanted. Send 60¢ stamp for free sample of Florida Token Society's newsletter, TOKENNEWS and request free Florida token. Check out the Florida Token Society web site: <http://www.mratliff.com/fts/> - you can join and pay dues on-line! Will Steve Ratliff, 1717 Saint Marys Bay Drive, Milton, FL 32583-7343 Steve@Ratliff.com +

FOR TRADE ONLY: Lilly Coal Co., Aracola, WV \$1 Edkins #103a100. J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

A REMINDER, "+" AFTER YOUR AD MEANS IT IS TIME TO RENEW

BUYING

ALL COAL & LUMBER SCRIP

W.VA. MERCHANTS TOKENS

CIVIL WAR TOKENS

POCKET WATCHES

WAR RELICS

U.S. COINS & CURRENCY

Doug Bumgardner

A.N.A. #50786

Kanawha Coin Shop

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Charleston, WV 25301

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